

To: Havard, James[Havard.James@epa.gov]
Cc: Monschein, Eric[Monschein.Eric@epa.gov]; Conde, Rosaura[Conde.Rosaura@epa.gov]
From: Wooster, Richard
Sent: Wed 4/18/2018 2:13:17 PM
Subject: RE: EPA completes Illinois River Watershed Models

Based on the limited information shared with me by the RA/DRA(acting).

Parties to the ECOS conversation: RA Anne Idsal, Acting DRA David Gray, OK Secretary of Energy & Environment Michael Teague, OK DEQ Director Scott Thompson, and AR DEQ Director Becky Keogh.
Rumored (but I cannot confirm) participants: Ken Wagner, AA David Ross

- All parties are sufficiently comfortable with the WQ models for the States' intended uses
- Region 6 is to provide both States and Cherokee Nation copies of the input data files, executable HSPF and EFDC model software, and baseline model run (see Region 6 public website)
- Neither State particularly interested in quasi-regulatory "TMDL" approach; greater inclination toward watershed based plans
- OK Water Resources Board to meet April 17 and issue press release announcing intent to modify Scenic Rivers WQS (frequency/duration)
- Technical Workgroup to meet April 24/25 in West Siloam Springs, OK
- States to develop 3rd round of interstate agreement focusing on assessment, implementation, and monitoring - - target date is June for signatures
- States will engage stakeholders in review/comment process re: models and plans
- Region 6 issued press release April 16
- Region 6 posted data files and links to executables on website April 17

From: Havard, James
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 8:57 AM
To: Wooster, Richard <Wooster.Richard@epa.gov>
Cc: Conde, Rosaura <Conde.Rosaura@epa.gov>; Monschein, Eric <Monschein.Eric@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: EPA completes Illinois River Watershed Models

Good morning Richard. Do you have a brief summary of these conversations. I recall you provided a brief oral summary, which essentially said that Arkansas had some success pushing back on Oklahoma on 303 issues. I'd like to get back to John asap. Thanks!

From: Goodin, John
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 11:26 AM
To: Wall, Tom <Wall.Tom@epa.gov>; Havard, James <Havard.James@epa.gov>
Cc: Connors, Sandra <Connors.Sandra@epa.gov>; Monschein, Eric <Monschein.Eric@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: EPA completes Illinois River Watershed Models

Did we ever get a report out from the RA's planned chats with the AR and OK Director's at ECOS?
Thanks
John

From: Garcia, David
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 11:19 AM
To: Goodin, John <Goodin.John@epa.gov>; Nagle, Deborah <Nagle.Deborah@epa.gov>; Lapp, Jeffrey <lapp.jeffrey@epa.gov>; Hisel-McCoy, Sara <Hisel-McCoy.Sara@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: EPA completes Illinois River Watershed Models

FYI, press release on Illinois River Watershed. Please read below and have a great week.:)

David F. Garcia, P.E.
Acting Director
Water Division

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U.S. EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue (Mail Code: 6WQ)
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733
Phone: (214) 665-7593

From: Durant, Jennah

Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 10:11 AM

To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Garcia, David <Garcia.David@epa.gov>; Dwyer, Stacey <Dwyer.Stacey@epa.gov>;
Wooster, Richard <Wooster.Richard@epa.gov>

Cc: Hubbard, Joseph <Hubbard.Joseph@epa.gov>; Martindale, Cary <martindale.cary@epa.gov>; Taheri, Diane
<Taheri.Diane@epa.gov>; Bokun, Lisa <Bokun.Lisa@epa.gov>

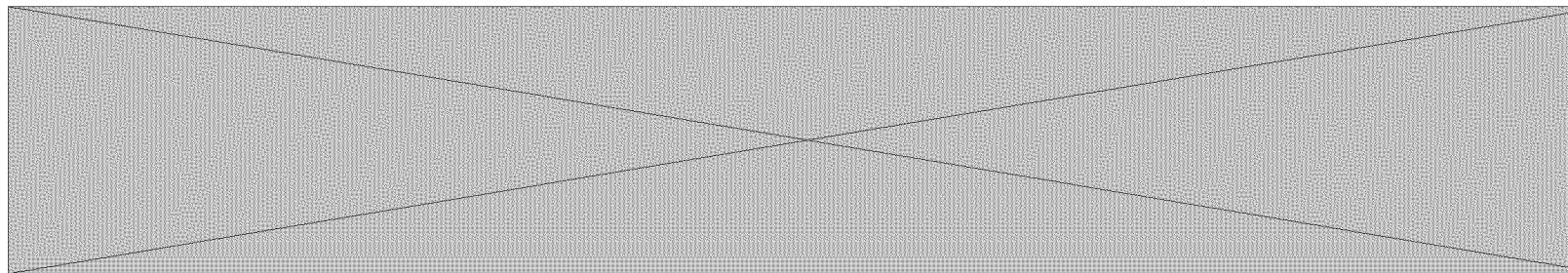
Subject: FW: EPA completes Illinois River Watershed Models

From: US EPA [<mailto:noreply-subscriptions@epa.gov>]

Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 10:06 AM

To: Durant, Jennah <Durant.Jennah@epa.gov>

Subject: EPA completes Illinois River Watershed Models



EPA completes Illinois River Watershed Models

Media contacts: Jennah Durant or Joe Hubbard, R6Press@epa.gov or 214 665-2200

DALLAS – (April 16, 2018) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed the Illinois River Watershed Basin and Lake Tenkiller models and released them to the partnering agencies for use. The EPA partnered with Arkansas, Oklahoma and the Cherokee Nation to develop science-based water quality models. Partner agencies can now use the models to evaluate options as they continue to reduce phosphorus loadings from sources in northeast Oklahoma and northwest Arkansas.

“These tools are great examples of how cooperative federalism works by helping partnering agencies achieve their long-term goals,” said EPA Regional Administrator Anne Idsal. “Over the years we have made great progress by working with states, tribes and local agencies in improving conditions throughout the watershed and we look forward to continuing this effort.”

The models simulate conditions within the Illinois River Watershed and in Lake Tenkiller. These models can be used to evaluate options and their ability to improve water quality. EPA completed calibration as well as a sensitivity and

uncertainty evaluation for the watershed and lake models. Within a few weeks, the EPA will convene the partnering agencies to share information about both models and discuss next steps.

Both states have committed to sharing the models and information with stakeholders within the impacted areas and will encourage feedback and involvement within their jurisdictions. Partner agencies will continue to collaborate during the coming months.

Since 2003, Arkansas and Oklahoma have been working cooperatively to protect and improve water quality in the designated scenic rivers and to avoid costly, protracted litigation and administrative proceedings. In February 2013, Arkansas and Oklahoma extended and augmented the original Statement of Joint Principles and Action to make additional commitments to further scientific understanding and continue to improve water quality through 2016. Today's release of the two models is expected to help partnering agencies continue this progress.

Nutrient pollution is one of America's most widespread, costly and challenging environmental problems, and is caused by excess nitrogen and phosphorus in the air and water. Phosphorus levels in the Illinois River can be caused by various types of city and industrial discharges as well as nonpoint source run-off. The downstream impacts to Lake Tenkiller may include 'algal blooms' and low dissolved oxygen concentrations in the lake.

To learn more about Illinois River Watershed Modeling Program, please visit:
<https://www3.epa.gov/region6/water/npdes/illinoisriverwatershed/index.html>

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